

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAHORE 01448 071229Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01

/058 W

----- 021006

R 070945Z NOV 74

FM AMCONSUL LAHORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 219

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PK, AF, UR

SUBJECT: MORE FROM BHUTTO ON SOVIETS, AFGHANS AND NAP

REF: LAHORE 1437

1. ON FIFTH DAY OF PRIME MINISTER BHUTTO'S EIGHT-DAY TOUR OF PUNJAB NOV 6, HE RETURNED TO SUBJECT OF HIS TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADERS IN MOSCOW AND SAID HE WISHED TO CLARIFY WHAT PAPERS HAD QUOTED HIM AS HAVING SAID ON NOV 4 AT BAHAWALNAGER (PARA 2 REFTEL). HE REPEATED THAT HE HAD ASKED SOVIETS, INCLUDING CPSU GENERAL SECRETARY BREZHNEV, TO TRY TO DISSUADE AFGHANS FROM "CREATING DISORDER" ON PAKISTAN'S BORDERS.

2. APPARENTLY SOME PAPERS HAD QUOTED BHUTTO AS SAYING HE ALSO ASKED SOVIETS TO TALK TO NATIONAL AWAMI PARTY (NAP) LEADERS, BECAUSE PRIME MINISTER STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT HE HAD NEVER ASKED RUSSIAN LEADERS TO DO SO. IN FACT, HE MAINTAINED, HE HAD NEVER MENTIONED NAP DURING
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PAGE 02 LAHORE 01448 071229Z

TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADERS; NOR HAD SOVIETS THEMSELVES

RAISED SUBJECT, SINCE IT WAS INTERNAL AFFAIR OF PAKISTAN. HOWEVER, HE ADMITTED THAT IN ONE SPEECH IN MOSCOW HE HAD DECLARED THAT AFGHANISTAN "WITH HELP OF THE NAP" WAS TRYING TO "CREATE CHAOS" IN BALUCHISTAN, BUT CON- TENDED THAT IT WAS HIS ONLY MENTION OF NAP DURING VISIT. ACCORDING TO VERNACULAR PRESS, BHUTTO ADDED THAT, IF ANYONE DOUBTED HIM, HE COULD VERIFY FACTS FROM SOVIET EMBASSY IN ISLAMABAD.

3. BHUTTO USED OCCASION TO TAKE ANOTHER SWIPE AT NAP, SAYING THAT NAP AND OTHER OPPOSITION PARTIES SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF VISITING FOREIGN EMBASSIES IN ISLAMABAD TO PRESENT MEMORANDA IN ATTEMPTS TO INVITE FOREIGN MEDDLING IN PAKISTAN'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE CAME CLOSE TO CHARGES OF TREASON WHEN HE ADDED THAT NAP AND OTHER OPPOSITION PARTIES HAD SOUGHT EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE TO OVERTHROW HIS POPULARLY ELECTED GOVERNMENT.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO FURTHER REPORTING IN PRESS OF UDF OR NAP ACTIVITIES (WHICH PRESUMABLY ARE CONTINUING NEAR SITES OF BHUTTO'S CURRENT STOPS), BHUTTO'S REMARKS ABOUT NAP WERE PRO- BABLY PROMPTED AT LEAST IN PART BY SOMETHING SAID BY NAP LEADERS OVER PAST FEW DAYS. IN FACT, PRIME MINISTER DISCOURSED AT CONSIDERABLY GREATER LENGTH ABOUT "ANTI- PAKISTAN" ACTIVITIES OF NAP DURING REMARKS ON KASHMIR QUESTION, WHICH BEING REPORTED SEPTTEL.
GRIFFIN

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